

requirement or provision of this subpart which is not inconsistent with the authorizing statute or other applicable law if the Administrator determines that application of the requirement or provision would adversely affect the Government's interest. The Administrator will exercise this authority only at the request of the State Director and on the recommendation of the appropriate program Assistant Administrator. Requests for exceptions must be made in writing by the State Director and supported with documentation to explain the adverse affect on the Government's interest, propose alternative courses of action, and show how the adverse affect will be eliminated or minimized if the exception is granted. Any settlement actions approved by the Administrator under this section will be documented on Form FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 1956-1 and returned to the State Office for submission to the Finance Office.

§ 1956.100 OMB control number.

The collection of information requirements in this regulation have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget and assigned OMB control number 0575-0118. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to vary from 15 to 20 minutes per response, with an average of 20 minutes per response including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Agriculture, Clearance Officer, OIRM, Room 404-W, Washington, DC 20250; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Subpart C—Debt Settlement—Community and Business Programs

SOURCE: 53 FR 13100, Apr. 21, 1988, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1956.101 Purposes.

This subpart delegates authority and prescribes policies and procedures for debt settlement of Water and Waste Disposal System loans; Community Facility loans; Association Recreation loans; Watershed loans and advances; Resource, Conservation and Development loans; Rural Renewal loans; direct Business and Industry loans; Irrigation and Drainage loans; Shift-inland-use loans; and Section 306C WWD loans. Settlement of Economic Opportunity Cooperative loans, Claims Against Third Party Converters, Non-program loans, Rural Business Enterprise/Television Demonstration Grants, Rural Development Loan Fund loans, Intermediary Relending Program loans, Nonprofit National Corporations Loans and Grants, and 601 Energy Impact Assistance Grants, is not authorized under independent statutory authority and settlement under these programs is handled pursuant to the Federal Claims Collection Joint Standards, 4 CFR parts 101-105 as described in § 1956.147 of this subpart.

[62 FR 33511, June 19, 1997, as amended at 66 FR 1569, Jan. 9, 2001]

§ 1956.102 Application of policies.

(a) *General.* If a debt is eligible for settlement, the debt settlement authorities of the Farmers Home Administration or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 (FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354) should be explained and the privileges thereof extended to the debtor. All debtors are entitled to impartial treatment and uniform consideration under this subpart. Accordingly, FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 personnel charged with any responsibility in connection with debt settlement will adhere strictly to the authorizations, requirements, and limitations in this subpart.

(b) *For hospitals and health care facilities only.* Loan servicing and debt restructuring options according to § 1956.143 of this subpart must be exhausted before the other settlement authorities of this subpart are applicable.

[53 FR 13100, Apr. 21, 1988, as amended at 59 FR 46160, Sept. 7, 1994]